

JSC to the World

The People of the Johnson Space Center Reach Out

Contributing to our communities and sharing knowledge gained in the pursuit of exploring space is a primary goal of JSC. The R&D conducted at JSC benefits all humankind. By actively working to help those benefits become known and available to the public, the people of JSC reach out not only locally but also worldwide through community and educational outreach activities.

The commitment of JSC and our employees to share resources, ideas, technologies and their own time with our local community and throughout the nation is profound. The impact of this is seen through: educational programs, event participation, business development, and university and research partnerships.

In FY 2000-2001, Distance Learning Outpost visited 45 states and supported events such as National Engineers Week, Global Leap and Space Week. With a potential schedule for almost 800 events each year, students from across the U.S., England, Mexico, Canada and Europe are encouraged to achieve success in science, mathematics, geography, engineering and technology.

JSC builds awareness and excitement for space exploration by participating in many types of public events. JSC's many exhibits and our "Space Station Imagination" traveling space station modules help the Center reach millions of people each year. The Center plays a major role in our local community: through events such as the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo and Houston's International

Festival, we reach out to our community using exciting educational exhibits and volunteers to represent NASA and JSC to the public. At the 2001 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, JSC's 900-square-foot exhibit highlighted the latest information on the International Space Station, gave visitors a virtual tour of the living quarters and laboratory, and challenged children's and their parents' knowledge with a space trivia interactive display. The young were given the opportunity to "become an astronaut" by being photographed inside a mockup of an EMU suit used for spacewalks. Various JSC astronauts were on hand during weekend hours to autograph photos. JSC presented the story of America's space exploration effort to a large portion of the 1,382,183 visitors to the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.

As a member of the Clear Lake Area Economic Development Foundation (CLAEDF), JSC was able to share information about the International Space Station with an international audience at the 47th Paris Air Show, which took place at LeBourget Air Field outside Paris, France. In excess of 266,500 representatives of more than 149 countries attended this event. The exhibit featured space-age technology, a nine-foot-tall model of the International Space Station, and current video on the progress of station assembly flights.

The International Space Station Trailer exhibit is part of the JSC inventory of traveling exhibits. During FY 2001, it toured more than 15 cities and events throughout the U.S. where over 35,000 visitors experienced the look and feel of life on board a space station.

JSC is a well-known destination, attracting hundreds of thousands of visitors each year. In 2001, the Center welcomed many students, educators, community members and government and business leaders to sites made famous more than 25 years ago. These sites still instill a sense of wonder today.

JSC Open House invites the public to look behind the scenes and visit with the people who are an important part of





America's space exploration programs. JSC's 2001 Open House gave approximately 140,000 visitors from around the world the opportunity to see and speak with the Expedition Three crew aboard the International Space Station via satellite downlink to the stage of the Teague Auditorium.

Space Center Houston – JSC's neighboring museum, showcase and interactive center – has, for the first five years, averaged more than 800,000 visitors. It thus continues to help tell the JSC story.

In conjunction with Open House, the Clear Lake Ballunar Liftoff Festival was held on the JSC grounds. This collaboration has fostered a vibrant partnership between the Clear Lake community and JSC, NASA's home of human spaceflight. The Center for Economic Development and Research at the UH estimates the financial impact of the Ballunarfest upon the local area was approximately \$8 million in 2000, and again in 2001. Estimations for the Houston region are approximately \$19 million.

Employees serve, create, design and innovate at JSC. We are proud to share our news and the NASA story with the rest of the world in many ways. JSC works with national and international print as well as electronic and broadcast media on articles, television news stories, documentaries, movies and TV shows on a daily basis. JSC provides around-the-clock space shuttle mission support and commentary, broadcast coverage of shuttle preflight press conferences, status briefings and other NASA TV support.

The NASA Human Space Flight Web site is the primary mechanism for delivery of information to the public and media concerning the Human Exploration and Development of Space (HEDS). The HEDS website includes space shuttle mission coverage, International Space Station coverage, release of news concerning all aspects of the HEDS effort, and real-time and historical information at http://spaceflight.nasa.gov/.

As you can see, JSC is a positive force in the community that it calls home. A large workforce of federal and contractor employees, and the Center's economic impact, greatly influence the local economy. The Center enhances the quality of life in the area through community service, partnerships with industry and education outreach programs.

It has been an exciting year at JSC, and for the foreseeable future the Center's focus will be on safely operating the space station with America's international partner countries. Whether future space missions will travel back to the Moon, on to Mars, or beyond, the International Space Station will serve as a platform for scientific discovery and a steppingstone to future exploration in the universe.

Educational Outreach Activities

By actively working to help those benefits become known and available to the public, the people of JSC reach out not only locally but also worldwide through educational outreach activities. A few of these outreach activities include:

Mars Settlement Design Competition

During the first weekend in February 2001,
JSC hosted the third annual Mars Settlement
Design Competition for Houston and
Southeast Texas area high school students
in grades 10, 11 and 12. Over 120 students
participated, representing 38 high schools
and 19 separate school districts. The threeday activity was conducted completely on
site at JSC. The students formed four
competitive "company" teams to live on
Mars in an industry simulation game set
in the middle of the 21st century.

Texas Aerospace Scholars

Education Outreach continued to serve both students and educators in FY 2000-2001. High School Aerospace Scholars (HSAS) served more than 250 high school juniors from across Texas. HSAS has become a model for successful partnerships promoting educational opportunities. The scholars completed 12 online lessons and final projects that were reviewed by NASA engineering mentors.

Distance Learning Outpost

The Distance Learning Outpost (DLO) is a unique live, real-time, interactive educational product offered by JSC's education staff. DLO offers a wide variety of educational, standards-based programs to K-12 schools, universities, museums and the public. Programs range from virtual tours of JSC's working facilities to "Expeditions" that highlight 12 space-related topics, to in-depth "Challenges" that allow students to research or construct and then present solutions to JSC experts.

